

PAST TENSES

Aspect/Tense	Past
Simple	Ved/V2 Did V? didn't V
Continuous	was/were Ving
Perfect	had Ved/V3
Perfect Continuous	had been Ving

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

- 1) She(type) a letter when her boss(arrive).
- 2) By the time I(get) to the theatre the play(already/start).
- 3) Why ... (John /be) so tired yesterday? - He(work) hard on his project all day. He(only/finish) it by 11p.m.
- 4) I (practise) for weeks before I (make) that speech!
- 5) When I (see) Mary, she (talk) to somebody outside the butcher's.
- 6) I (write) postcards while John (sunbathe) on the balcony yesterday afternoon.
- 7) I (just/finish) packing when my taxi (arrive).
- 8) He (drive) for three hours before he (reach) his destination.
- 9) She (train) for the finals for over a week before she (find out) that she (disqualify).
- 10) I (watch) some television after I(finish) my dinner.
- 11) A: (you/see) the film last night?-B: No. It (start) before I (finish) doing my homework.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

- 1) I(watch) the parade when I (see) an old friend in the crowd.
- 2) He (arrive) safely in Egypt yesterday.
- 3) I (just/finish) packing when my taxi (arrive).
- 4) The sun (shine) and the birds (sing) in the trees.
- 5) Sarah (wash) the dishes by the time her husband (arrive).
- 6) The fans (leave) the stadium when the concert (finish).
- 7) Mark (study) while his sister (listen) to music.
- 8) She (walk) in the park when a dog (attack) her.
- 9) Mary (read) the contract before she (sign) it.
- 10) A: Why (you/ not/ answer) my text message?- B: I'm sorry, but I (take) a bath at that moment.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

- 1) He(buy) the house before 1978.
- 2) She(wait) for an hour before Helen (arrive).
- 3) Mary (find) a beautiful shell while she(walk) on the beach.
- 4) It (already /snow) for two hours when they(leave) the house.
- 5) We (arrive) at the airport, (rent) a car and (go) on an excursion.
- 6) Peter (read) a magazine while he (have) a coffee.

- 7) The museum (close) by the time they (get) there.
- 8) That man (jump) out in front of our car while we (drive) along the street.
- 9) They(look) forward to this holiday for years before they finally managed to do it.
- 10) Philip (lose) his camera when he (walk) around the city.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct past tense.

- 1) She looked tired. She (plant) flowers all morning.
- 2) I (play) volleyball when the ball hit my head.
- 3) By the time Sheila got back, Chris (go).
- 4) When I (be) five my parents (buy) a piano for me.
- 5) First I..... (take) off my coat, then I (go) to the concert hall.
- 6) I ... (walk) to work when I ... (hear) the news.
- 7) The last time I (see) you (be)two years ago.
- 8) They (drive) for an hour before their car (break) down.
- 9) John (fall) asleep while he (read) a book.
- 10) They (wait) for 40 minutes before Ann finally(arrive).